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Governor O'Malley Statement on Federal Government Shutdown

October 1st, 2013

ANNAPOLIS – Governor Martin O'Malley released the following statement on the federal government shutdown and its impact on Maryland:

"The federal government shutdown that Congressional Republicans forced upon us will needlessly hurt hardworking Maryland moms and dads who are federal employees; harm small and large businesses across Maryland — including health, aerospace, and defense companies; and threaten our State's budget in a time of economic recovery.

"In this year's Maryland budget, we worked with the General Assembly to set aside funds to lessen the impact of sequestration — another needless blow struck by Congress. We have flexibility on how to use these funds, and we're actively assessing all of our options so that we can minimize the harmful effects of prolonged Congressional recklessness on Maryland families and businesses."

For an analysis of the shutdown's economic impact on Maryland by the state's Department of Budget and Management, visit <http://www.governor.maryland.gov/documents/federalshutdown.pdf>

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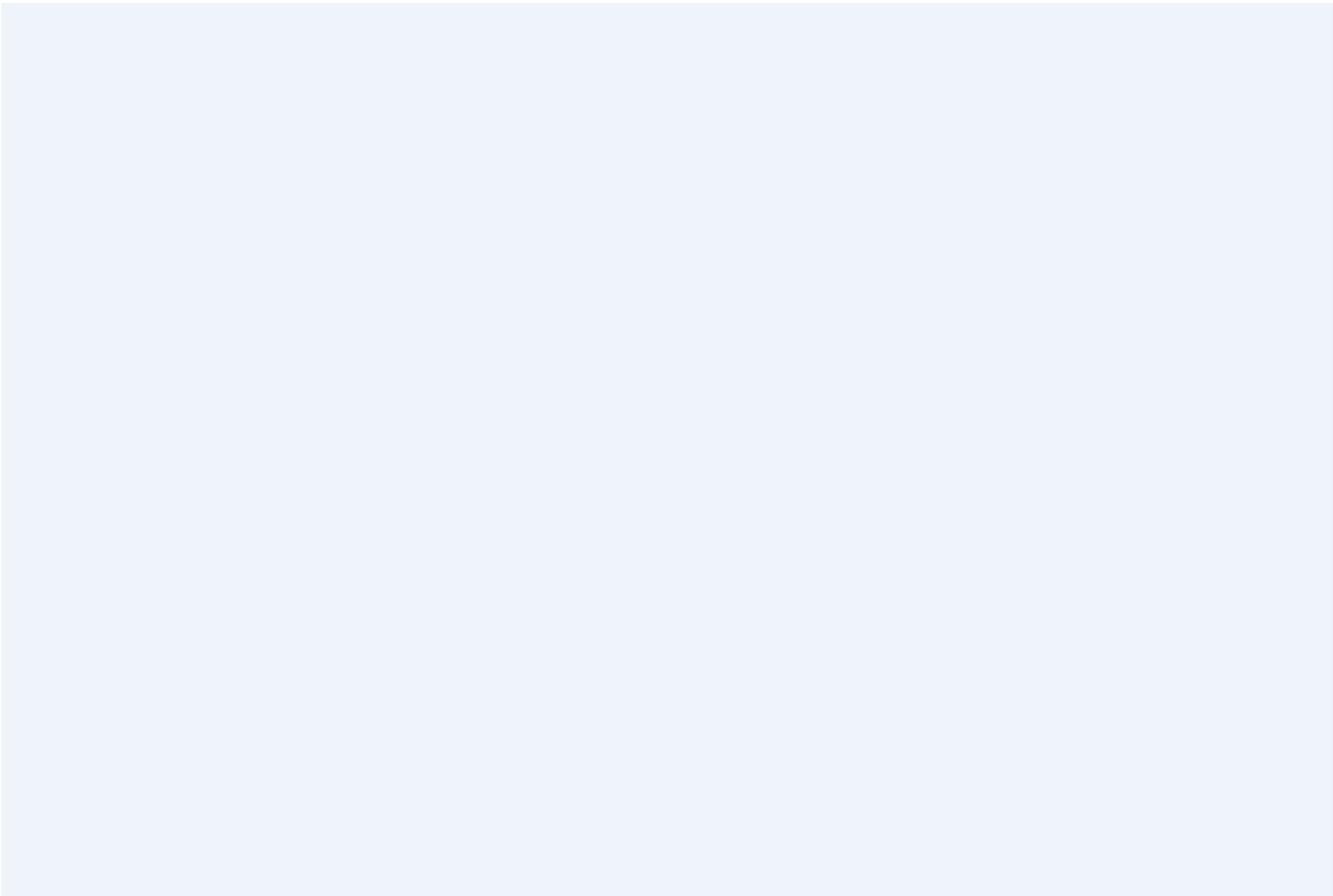
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Governor O'Malley Announces New Life Science Advisory Board Members

October 1st, 2013

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today thanked the outgoing members of the Maryland Life Sciences Advisory Board and announced the appointment of seven new members. Created in 2007 by Governor O'Malley, the Board has worked to implement a strategic plan that includes BioMaryland 2020, a 10-year, \$1.3 billion strategy for moving Maryland's life sciences industry forward

"I commend the outgoing members of the Life Sciences Advisory board for leading the effort to develop a comprehensive plan that has helped position Maryland as a global leader in the life sciences. To date, we have invested more than \$600 million in initiatives that will create jobs and expand opportunity for decades to come," said Governor O'Malley. "We are fortunate to have seven new members which include some of the State's most skilled and talented scientists, educators and business professionals to help us grow our Innovation Economy."

Governor O'Malley spearheaded a number of strategic investments in Maryland's life sciences industry. In addition to creating the LSAB and launching the BioMaryland 2020 initiative, the Governor launched the BioMaryland Centers to bring together all of the State's life sciences assets; increased funding for critical bio investments, including Maryland's Stem Cell Research Fund, the Biotechnology Tax Credit and nanobiotechnology research grants; and created InvestMaryland to make critical investments in seed and early-stage companies, including those in biotech. In addition, under Governor O'Malley's leadership, Maryland's major research parks, including the University of Maryland, Baltimore BioPark, the Science +Technology Park in East Baltimore and the Montgomery College/Germantown Science and Technology Park, have undergone significant expansion.

In June, Rachel King, **Chief Executive Officer of GlycoMimetics, Inc. in Gaithersburg, was named as the Board's new Chair, succeeding long-time chair H. Thomas Watkins. Ms. King is also serving as Chair of the Board for the Biotechnology Industry Association (BIO).**

The new Board members are:

Eddy C. Agbo, DVM, Ph.D., Chairman and CEO of Fyodor Biotechnologies Corp.

Kimberly A. Brown, Ph.D., CEO, Amethyst Technologies, LLC

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Thomas M. Hyde, MD, Ph.D., Chief Operating Officer, Lieber Institute for Brain Development

Mark A. Mlynarczyk, Senior Director, Executive External Relations, Medimmune

Karen E. Nelson, Ph.D., President, J. Craig Venter Institute

Kathleen Kennedy Norris, Ph.D., Director of Life Sciences Institute, Coordinator of Biotechnology, Baltimore City Community College

Frank F. Weichold, MD, Ph.D., Director, Office of Critical Path and Regulatory Science Initiatives, Office of the Commissioner, US Food and Drug Administration

Originally comprised of 15 members, the Board was expanded to 18 members during last year's General Assembly session. The Board includes the Secretary of Business and Economic Development (DBED), a representative from the Maryland Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO), three representatives from federal agencies with life science missions, seven representatives from biotechnology businesses in Maryland (including at least four from small businesses), four representatives from institutions of higher education (including one from community colleges), one with marketing experience in Life Sciences and a member of the general public.

As part of the strategic plan, the LSAB's priorities include ensuring the sustained growth and future competitiveness of Maryland's life sciences industry; supporting the creation and growth of innovative life sciences companies by ensuring access to capital; positioning Maryland for global leadership in cutting-edge areas of life sciences research and emerging and growth markets; and advancing life sciences talent generation and workforce development.

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Governor O'Malley Announces Appointments To Commission For Effective Community Inclusion Of Individuals With Intellectual And Developmental Disabilities

October 2nd, 2013

ANNAPOLIS, MD - Governor Martin O'Malley today announced several appointments to the Commission for Effective Community Inclusion of Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. The Governor previously announced his designation of Dr. Timothy P. Shriver, Chairman and CEO of Special Olympics, to chair the Commission. These appointments are effective today, October 2, 2013.

The Commission was created by the Governor on September 17, 2013, in part as a response to the circumstances surrounding the death of Frederick County resident Ethan Saylor, an individual with Down syndrome. The Commission is required to submit an initial progress report by January 9, 2014, which would have been Mr. Saylor's 27th birthday.

"I am pleased that these talented and committed individuals have agreed to serve on this important commission," Governor O'Malley said. "I am confident that they each possess the experience, knowledge and leadership necessary to ensure that the dignity of every Marylander, including individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, is protected."

The Commission will develop recommendations about the types of training standards that Maryland should adopt to educate people that interact with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) — particularly those in public sector positions such as law enforcement officials, paramedics and other first responders — about the best approaches for safely managing situations involving individuals with IDD. The Commission will also recommend statewide policies, guidance, or best practices regarding law enforcement and first responders' responses to situations involving individuals with IDD; and develop a coordinated, collaborative, and comprehensive strategy to ensure enhanced responses to such situations, including consideration of expanding Crisis Intervention Teams and Mobile Crisis Teams.

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In addition to the Governor's appointments listed below, the Commission will also include eight members from the following Maryland agencies and organizations: the Department of Disabilities, the Maryland State Police, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems, the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, the Department of Juvenile Services, the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, and the Police and Correctional Training Commissions. The Speaker of the House of Delegates and the President of the Senate will also appoint members.

The Commission members are:

Timothy P. Shriver, Ph.D. - Chair and Member At-Large – Dr. Shriver is the Chairman and CEO of Special Olympics. He also co-founded and chairs the Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL). Dr. Shriver earned a Bachelor's degree from Yale University, a Master's degree in Religion and Religious Education from Catholic University and a Ph.D. in Education from the University of Connecticut. He has produced and co-produced movies and several shows for major television networks, is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and serves on the Board of the WPP Group, LLC. Dr. Shriver resides in Montgomery County.

Hon. Anne Colt Leitess - Representative from a State's Attorney's Office – Ms. Leitess is the State's Attorney for Anne Arundel County. She earned a B.A. degree in Political Science from West Chester University and a law degree from the University of Baltimore Law School. Ms. Leitess is a Member of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and is the 2014 Secretary and 2013 Assistant Secretary and Bar Weekend Committee for the Anne Arundel Bar Association. She resides in Anne Arundel County.

Officer Scott A. Davis - Representative from a City or County Police Department – Officer Davis is the Crisis Intervention Team Coordinator for the Montgomery County Police Department. He also serves as a Crisis Negotiator and Police Academy Instructor. Officer Davis served for 20 years in the Army National Guard, Air Force Guard and Air Force Reserves.

Lieutenant Dwayne Embert - Representative from a Sheriff's Department – Lieutenant Embert has served in the Queen Anne's County Sheriff's Department for 24 years. He earned a B.S. Degree in Criminal Justice from Wilmington University and is a volunteer and committee member for the Boy Scouts of America. Lieutenant Embert resides in Caroline County.

Theresa R. Sparks - Representative of a Maryland Organization that Advocates for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities – Ms. Sparks is a longtime Legal Advocate for the Maryland Disability Law Center (MDLC). She has served at MDLC for 25 years in various positions advocating for individuals with disabilities in the areas of community participation, individual rights protection and assistive technology. She resides in Anne Arundel County.

Sara Hart Weir - Representative of a National Organization that Advocates for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities – Ms. Weir is a Vice President of the National Down Syndrome Society. She earned a B.A. degree in Psychology and Political Leadership from Westminster College and an M.S. degree

in Public Policy and Management from Carnegie Mellon University. Ms. Weir is a Board Member for the Westminster College Board of Trustees and a Member of the National Task Group on Intellectual Disabilities and Dementia Practices.

Erica Wheeler - Self-Advocate with an Intellectual or Developmental Disability – Ms. Wheeler is a Dietary Aide for Emeritus Assisted Living at Somerville. She is also an athlete and outgoing Board Member for Special Olympics Maryland. Ms. Wheeler resides in Carroll County.

Brian T. Cox - Member At-Large – Mr. Cox is Executive Director of the Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council. He earned a B.A. degree in Psychology from the University of Maryland and an M.S.W. degree in Clinical and Administration from the University of Maryland School of Social Work and Community Planning. Mr. Cox resides in Baltimore County.

Thomas Curtis - Member At-Large – Mr. Curtis is Director of Transportation Policy for the Maryland Department of Disabilities. He is also a retired Administrative Law Judge and military officer. Mr. Curtis is a graduate of Loyola College and Villanova Law School. He resides in Baltimore City.

Joanna L. Pierson, Ph.D. – Member At-Large – Dr. Pierson is Executive Director of The Arc of Frederick County and is an Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Maryland School of Social Work. She earned a B.A. degree in Sociology from the University of Maryland, an M.S.W. degree from the University of Michigan and a Ph.D. from the University of Maryland, Baltimore. Dr. Pierson resides in Frederick County.

Andrew J. Imparato - Member At-Large – Mr. Imparato is Executive Director of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities. Most recently he served as Senior Counsel and Disability Policy Director for the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions. He received a B.A. with distinction in Humanities from Yale College and a law degree from Stanford Law School. Mr. Imparato resides in Baltimore City.

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Governor O'Malley, Montgomery County Executive Leggett and City of Gaithersburg Mayor Katz Announce Expansion of Emergent BioSolutions

October 2nd, 2013

GAITHERSBURG, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today joined with Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett and City of Gaithersburg Mayor Sidney Katz to announce that Emergent BioSolutions is expanding into a new headquarters building in Gaithersburg, and also plans to make improvements to its existing Research and Development site. As part of the expansion, the global pharmaceutical company will retain its existing 235 employees, and hire an additional 133 employees over the next five years.

"Emergent BioSolutions' continued investment in Maryland helps solidify our position as a life sciences powerhouse," said Governor O'Malley. "I am proud that Emergent BioSolutions is growing in Maryland, continuing to create jobs and working to develop life-saving vaccines that will give hope to millions of people around the world."

"Montgomery County was thrilled to partner with the State of Maryland and the City of Gaithersburg to provide Emergent Biosolutions with strategic funding to assist with their significant headquarters expansion in the County," said Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett. "Emergent has the only FDA-licensed anthrax vaccine on the market, 235 current jobs, plans to add 133 new jobs over five years and was in the top 20 on the Washington Business Journal's recent list of top 100 largest publicly traded companies; they are a poster-child for smart government investment, investment that will support both their continued contributions to global health and their continued contributions to the health of our local economy."

"The City Council and I were pleased to approve the support allowing Emergent BioSolutions to relocate its headquarters to Gaithersburg," said Gaithersburg Mayor Sidney A. Katz. "We welcome them to a growing list of companies that has resulted in our City earning the reputation as an international hub for biotechnology."

"Over the last 10 years, Emergent BioSolutions has invested and grown its presence in Maryland — from 30 to 300 employees, from a single site to three locations, including capital investment of over \$115 million — and we continue to expand, thanks to the support of the City, County, and State," said Robert G. Kramer,

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Emergent's Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. "Emergent is pleased to be part of Maryland's, Montgomery County's and the City of Gaithersburg's vibrant life sciences community and looks forward to contributing further to its success."

To assist with project costs, the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED) has approved a \$2 million loan, which is based on job retention and creation and capital investment. In addition, Montgomery County has approved a \$750,000 grant convertible to a loan under the same terms. The City of Gaithersburg is providing a \$250,000 grant convertible to a loan. The company is also eligible for a number of State and local tax credits and training programs.

Emergent BioSolutions is a specialty pharmaceutical company seeking to protect and enhance life by offering specialized products to healthcare providers and governments to address medical needs and emerging health threats. Last year, the company announced plans to partner with the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) to establish a Center for Innovation in Advanced Development and Manufacturing. The Center facilitates advanced development of chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear medicine countermeasures, ensures domestic pandemic influenza vaccine manufacturing surge capacity, and provides workforce development training program to address the U.S. government's preparedness priorities and needs.

About DBED:

The Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development stimulates private investment and creates jobs by attracting new businesses, encouraging the expansion and retention of existing companies, and providing workforce training and financial assistance to Maryland companies. The Department promotes the State's many economic advantages and markets local products and services at home and abroad to spur economic development and international investment, trade and tourism. Because they are major economic generators, the Department also supports the Arts, film production, sports and other special events. For more information, visit www.choosemaryland.org.

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Governor O'Malley Declares October "Maryland Manufacturing Month"

October 4th, 2013

BALTIMORE, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today issued a [proclamation](#) declaring October "Maryland Manufacturing Month" and kicked off a year-long focus on the State's manufacturing industry.

"Manufacturing offers one of our greatest opportunities to strengthen our middle class, grow jobs and create new opportunities here in Maryland," said Governor O'Malley. "To have a growing economy, we must also have a diverse economy which, at its core, must include a thriving manufacturing sector. I look forward to continuing to work with our industry stakeholders to turn the promise of manufacturing today into the reality of manufacturing tomorrow."

Beginning today, the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED) will feature a monthly story on a manufacturer in the State on its business blog, [MDBiz News](#). The series, titled "Maryland's Next Generation Manufacturers," will highlight companies employing the latest advancements in manufacturing. Click [here](#) to see this month's story on Tulkoff Foods. In addition, DBED will issue a report later this year on the state of the manufacturing industry.

Governor O'Malley has implemented a number of initiatives to grow Maryland's manufacturing industry. Last year, Governor O'Malley reinvigorated the Maryland Advisory Commission on Manufacturing Competitiveness, which is charged with advising the Governor on ways to encourage new and expanding manufacturing enterprises in Maryland. The 16-member Commission also recommends ways in which to retrain and educate Maryland workers for manufacturing jobs, support research, and foster the growth and viability of manufacturing enterprises in the State.

During this year's legislative session, Governor O'Malley created the EARN (Employment Advancement Right Now) job training initiative – a joint effort with members of the Maryland General Assembly to create industry-led regional job creation and workforce development partnerships that help to identify common workforce needs for high-demand occupations such as construction, traditional and advanced manufacturing, cybersecurity, and health care; and develop and implement education or training strategies to address those shortages.

In 2012, Maryland had 3,694 manufacturers employing 108,985 people.

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Manufacturing accounts for almost \$19 billion worth of output in 2012, or 6 percent of the State's total GDP.

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Maryland Submits Application to Modernize All-Payer System

October 11th, 2013

Proposed model focuses on prevention, quality care and value

BALTIMORE – Governor Martin O'Malley announced that Maryland today submitted to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services a revised proposal for an unprecedented and innovative model to improve health care outcomes, enhance patient experiences, and control costs across the State.

The proposal, developed and revised over the last year with input from a broad range of stakeholders, will modernize the State's all-payer rate setting system for hospital services. The state is proposing a fundamental shift away from fee-for-service reimbursement towards health care delivery that emphasizes prevention, quality care, and value.

"Our goal is a health care system that enhances patient care, improves health outcomes, and lowers costs," Governor O'Malley said. "As we see around the country, the fee-for-service status quo leads to ever-increasing costs with often mediocre outcomes. In Maryland, we're making better choices. The innovative approach we're submitting today will produce better results at lower costs by incentivizing quality of care, not quantity of care."

Working to expand health care over the past seven years, I have had the opportunity to see first-hand the tremendous impact that quality, affordable healthcare can have on families and businesses," Lt. Governor Brown said. "I want to commend all of the parties who have worked on the application – by strengthening Maryland's all-payer system, we can make Maryland a leader in the delivery of quality, affordable health care.

The proposed plan includes:

- A five year model focused on improving health care quality, delivery of services, and the affordability of health care.
- A new approach to Maryland's all-payer hospital waiver, which moves from the current statutory approach to all-payer hospital payment, which is based on Medicare payment per admission, to a new model that focuses on overall hospital expenditures.

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- Strong incentives for better outcomes at lower cost, by shifting away from fee-for-service reimbursement to models that reward hospitals when care is high quality and fewer admissions are needed.
- Improved quality, including substantial reductions in hospital readmissions and potentially preventable complications.
- Controls on costs, including an annual limit on the total increase in revenue based on the 10-year average growth in the state's economy and at least \$330 million in savings over five years to Medicare. The Health Services Cost Review Commission will be working with payers, providers, and many others to develop innovative approaches to create savings.

The proposal has the support of key stakeholders, including the Maryland Hospital Association, the state's largest insurer CareFirst, and other medical and consumer organizations.

Federal elected officials endorsing the proposal include Senator Barbara A. Mikulski, Senator Benjamin L. Cardin, Congressman Steny Hoyer, Congressman Chris Van Hollen, Congressman Elijah E. Cummings, Congressman John P. Sarbanes, Congressman Donna F. Edwards, Congressman C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger, and Congressman John Delaney. These elected officials sent a letter to Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius "to express our strong support of Maryland's proposal...to modernize the state's all-payer system of hospital payment." The letter further stated, "If Maryland is successful in meeting the ambitious goals set out in the application, Marylanders will clearly benefit from improved health, better quality care, and lower costs. The federal government will also benefit, not only through savings to Medicare and other federal payers, but also by providing an opportunity to evaluate innovative approaches to reform that may be applied elsewhere."

State Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., and Speaker of the House Michael E. Busch also endorsed the proposal.

"This proposal builds on a foundation of innovation in hospital payment to improve the health and well-being of Marylanders," Speaker Busch said.

"Our shared goal is a health care system that provides better value — quality health care services at lower cost. Modernizing the all-payer system gives us the opportunity to reach that goal," Senate President Miller said.

The proposal is available on the DHMH website at <http://dhmh.maryland.gov/SitePages/Medicare%20Waiver%20Modernization.aspx>

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Governor O'Malley, Senator Mikulski and County Executive Ulman Celebrate Completion of One Maryland Broadband Network

October 15th, 2013

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today joined Senator Barbara A. Mikulski, Howard County Executive Ken Ulman and state and local officials to observe new broadband capabilities at Kent Island High School and celebrate the completion of the One Maryland Broadband Network.

"If we are to continue to grow our economy and create jobs and opportunities in Maryland, we must make the better choices that will allow us to upgrade both our physical infrastructure—our roads, bridges and public transit—as well as our cyber infrastructure," **Governor O'Malley** said. "Broadband is the backbone of a 21st century innovation economy like Maryland's, and I am pleased that we have partners at the federal level, like Senator Mikulski, and at the local level, like County Executive Ulman, to help strengthen that backbone."

"I'm so proud that the final mile of the digital highway is complete and that Maryland is wired up and ready to go. From the waters of the Eastern Shore to the Bedrock Counties of Western Maryland, our high-tech digital highway is complete" said **Senator Mikulski**, Chairwoman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. "Broadband is about jobs, making our state more competitive in the global marketplace for the next generation and beyond. We've always been one Maryland, but with the One Maryland Broadband Network, we are one digital Maryland, taking ideas, opportunity, jobs for the future to every single county in Maryland. Together with Team Maryland, I have fought to tear down the digital divide so that no one will be sidelined or redlined. We truly are one Maryland, and ready to roll."

The completed One Maryland Broadband Network connects over 1,066 community anchor institutions by building out 1,321 miles of fiber. Anchor institutions include schools, police facilities, libraries, colleges and universities and other community support centers. The One Maryland Broadband Network was completed at a total cost of \$158.4 million, including a \$115.2 million federal grant and \$43.2 million in matching state and local funding.

"Abundant broadband is not a 'nice to have' in the 21st century. It is a 'must have,'" **County Executive Ulman** said. "The progress we can make in education,

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health care, innovation and efficiency is limited only by our imaginations. Our federal and state partners showed great vision in moving this project forward.”

The initiative is the only broadband initiative in the country to connect institutions not just in specific regions, but in every single county in the State. The network connects:

- 497 K-12 schools
- 58 libraries
- 250 public safety facilities
- 16 community colleges, and 9 other higher education institutions
- 7 medical facilities
- 41 community support locations
- 190 government service locations

Maryland communities can now access affordable, abundant and very high speed broadband in every part of the State. Due to the new broadband access, for example, students at Kent Island High School are now able to watch videos online, take part in interactive web-based programs, and use online resources in the classroom and throughout the school. Just last year, the network was not strong enough to support these activities.

The One Maryland Broadband Network has been regarded as a model partnership between federal, state and local communities. This infrastructure is paving the way for the future of high-speed internet service in our State while expanding economic opportunities, increasing our ability to provide public safety and health services, and strengthening our small business communities.

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Governor O'Malley Celebrates the Completion of the State's First Commercial Solar Microgrid at a Mixed Use Development

October 15th, 2013

Governor O'Malley joins together with FERC Chairman, Standard Solar, Konterra and Solar Grid Storage to dedicate Maryland's first commercial solar microgrid at a mixed use development

LAUREL — Today, Governor Martin O'Malley, joined by FERC Chairman Jon Wellinghoff and executives from Standard Solar, Konterra and Solar Grid Storage, dedicated Maryland's first commercial solar micro grid at Konterra headquarters in Laurel. The 402 kW solar micro grid system, a grid-interactive energy storage system co-located with a new 1,368 panel photovoltaic (PV) canopy array, is also recognized as one of the first commercial solar micro grids in the nation. The benefits of the system include generation of 20 percent of the annual building power for the Konterra headquarters as well as two electric vehicle charging stations, and LED parking lot lighting. The power is equivalent to the electrical usage of about 57 American homes for one year, or removing 90 passenger vehicles from the roads per year.

"We invested in this project through our MEA Grant Changer Program because in Maryland we know that if we want better results, we have to make better choices. Better choices like making solar energy a priority," said Governor O'Malley. "Since 2007, we've multiplied by 1,500 the amount of solar power on the state's grid. In the process, we've created 2,000 new jobs. These are modern, innovative investments that lead to jobs and a greener economy."

This innovative renewable energy project, which brings Maryland closer to reaching its goal of increasing in-state renewable generation to 20 percent by 2022, combines the strengths of Maryland's booming solar energy market and the power of grid resiliency. In the event of a conventional power grid outage, the innovative solar PV array will stay online through the power of an advanced energy storage system. If grid power goes down, the system batteries will keep a "critical load" of 50 kW online for just over four hours at night and recharge the next day.

"Energy storage not only provides substantial value to the electric grid, it makes the integration of solar PV and other distributed generation systems reliable, efficient

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and cost-effective as well,” said FERC Chairman Jon Wellinghoff. “Distributed storage is an important piece of the puzzle as we deploy new resources to generate energy.”

“For years the solar industry has recognized that widespread implementation of grid-connected energy storage systems would be key to solar PV becoming a mainstream energy source,” said Tony Clifford, CEO, Standard Solar. “Today, we dedicate one such system, marking a huge step for solar microgrids and the industry overall.”

“This solar energy storage project is a milestone in the evolution of energy generation. It is the beginning of what will be a smarter, more resilient grid as more renewables with storage are deployed,” said Tom Leyden, CEO of Solar Grid Storage. “Successfully pairing reliable emissions-free solar power with energy storage provides a range of additional new benefits: emergency back up during power outages, grid stability, and peak demand reduction. Simply put, PV plus storage is ushering in the grid of the future.”

“Konterra is excited to power up with solar energy coupled with innovative storage capacity while now contributing to the ambitious Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard goal that Maryland has set for 2022,” said Melissa Gould, Director of Sustainability Initiatives for Konterra. “Konterra strives to be a sustainable mixed-use community in which healthy living and working environments incorporate cutting-edge technologies and renewable energy solutions. We anticipate that this micro-grid prototype will encourage the development of similar facilities on surface lots and roof tops across the state and the nation.”

The MEA Game Changer Competitive Grant Program is supported by the Strategic Energy Investment Fund, which was created from public auctions of carbon credits through the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. Additional project funding was provided by Konterra, PNC Bank and Solar Grid Storage.

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Governor O'Malley Appoints David V. Fraser-Hidalgo as Delegate for Legislative District 15 in Montgomery County

October 16th, 2013

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today appointed David V. Fraser-Hidalgo as Delegate for Legislative District 15, representing Montgomery County. He will fill the vacancy left by now Maryland Senator Brian Feldman of Potomac, who Governor O'Malley appointed to replace former Sen. Robert Garagiola in September. Mr. Fraser-Hidalgo's term will begin effective immediately.

"I am pleased to announce the appointment of the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee's candidate to the District 15 delegate seat," said Governor O'Malley. "We are confident that Mr. Fraser-Hidalgo will serve the people of our State well in his new role."

As stated in the Maryland Constitution Article III, Sec. 13, Governor O'Malley is required to make an appointment to fill a Delegate vacancy from a written submission by the Central Committee of the political party affiliated with the vacating Delegate.

Per Constitutional requirements, the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee voted and submitted Fraser-Hidalgo's name for appointment.

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Maryland's Economic Recovery Drives Down Employers' Unemployment Tax Rates

October 16th, 2013

Many Maryland employers to see unemployment insurance tax reduced by 70 percent

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today joined Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation Secretary Leonard J. Howie III and Maryland Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Kathy Snyder to announce that Maryland's economic recovery has once again driven down unemployment insurance tax rates for Maryland employers. Beginning January 1, 2014, most Maryland businesses will pay lower unemployment insurance taxes. Unemployment Insurance is a critical lifeline for working Marylanders during tough economic times. Improving the unemployment insurance trust fund has been a priority for the O'Malley-Brown Administration.

"Progress doesn't happen by chance, but by the choices we're making together to build a strong, growing and resilient economy," said Governor Martin O'Malley. "As a result of our efforts together with Maryland employers to recover the jobs lost during the recession, Maryland businesses will see a significant cut in their unemployment insurance rate – many as much as 70 percent."

Under state law, the tax rates are determined each year based upon the health of the Trust Fund on September 30. The health of the trust fund is connected to the health of the economy – as the economy improves, so too does the health of the trust fund. As the health of the trust fund improves, tax rates for Maryland employers fall.

At \$934,896,062, Maryland has the eighth highest trust fund balance in the country. Weekly benefit payouts have declined steadily since peaking in 2009, and the balance in the trust fund is healthy enough to trigger a key rate change for 2014. Reflecting the recovery of the fund, the range of unemployment insurance rates that employers will pay in 2014 will be significantly lower than the rates in the prior four years.

In 2012, Table F was in effect with a range of tax rates of 2.2 percent to 13.5 percent of the first \$8,500 in annual wages. For calendar year 2013, Table C was in effect

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with range of rates of 1.0 percent to 10.5 percent of the first \$8,500 in annual wages. For 2014 Table A – the lowest range of tax rates – will be in effect, with a range of rates of .3 percent to 7.5 percent on the first 8,500 in annual wages. Many businesses will realize an 86 percent reduction in their UI cost per employee over the last two years.

While individual rates in 2014 will vary from business to business, today's announcement means that many of Maryland's businesses will receive a significant tax cut. For example, while an employer at the lowest end of the tax rates paid \$85 per employee in 2013, the company will now be paying less than half this much – \$25.50 – in 2014.

"By working together when times are tight, we're now seeing significantly reduced unemployment insurance taxes for Maryland's employers, adding further fuel to our economic recovery," said Secretary Howie. "Thanks to the leadership of Governor O'Malley and the work of our partners in the General Assembly, and the hard work and fortitude of Maryland businesses, we are far ahead of most states in this area," said Secretary Howie, noting that 15 other states have loans from the U.S. Government to pay unemployment insurance benefits.

David McGlone, Acting Assistant Secretary for the Division of Unemployment Insurance, attributes the tax rate reduction to cooperative planning in the State. "Through Maryland's Unemployment Insurance Oversight Committee, we work together to have a strong system for all Marylanders. Today's announcement shows that the rate structure system works as intended."

When unemployment claims increased during the national recession, Governor O'Malley introduced legislation to strengthen Maryland's unemployment insurance program, and worked with the Division of Unemployment Insurance on a new program to offer payment plans for employers. Over the last four years, Maryland employers have implemented 3,582 payment plans with DLLR. These plans work to the benefit of employers and claimants alike by keeping wage records current and a consistent revenue stream for the UI Trust Fund.

"The reduction in unemployment insurance tax rates is good news for Maryland employers, workers and the economy," said Kathy Snyder, CCE, President/CEO, Maryland Chamber of Commerce. Working together through the Unemployment Insurance Oversight Committee, business, labor and elected leaders have strengthened Maryland's unemployment insurance system."

"Lower tax liabilities will have positive consequences for Maryland's employers, workers, and the economy. They are the direct result of the prudent decisions made by Maryland business leaders, labor, the legislature, and the O'Malley Administration. Maryland is well-positioned to seize new economic opportunities," said Ronald Adler, President-CEO of Laurdan Associates, Inc., Chair of the Maryland Chamber of Commerce UI Subcommittee and member of the UI Oversight Committee.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has ranked Maryland #1 for entrepreneurship and innovation two years in a row. The Milken Institute ranks our State #1 in research and development per capita, and #2 for science and technology assets. The nonpartisan group The States Project says we're #2 for economic opportunity, and

the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation ranks us among the five states best positioned to succeed in the new economy. And for the fourth year in a row- the Chamber also ranks us in the top ten for economic performance. Last year, entrepreneurial Marylanders made our State 4th in the nation for startups per capita according to a study by Fast Company.

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O'Malley-Brown Administration Hosts Roundtable in Honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October 16th, 2013

Annapolis, MD — Governor Martin O'Malley and Lt. Governor Anthony G. Brown today highlighted the importance of Domestic Violence Awareness month with a roundtable to discuss domestic violence in Maryland. The Governor and Lt. Governor hosted 14 law enforcement, non-profit, government, and community partners to discuss the importance of working collaboratively to prevent domestic violence and reach out to help its victims.

“Over the last six years, we’ve worked together with our partners to protect victims and give law enforcement, prosecutors, and victim advocates the tools they need. Together, we surpassed our goal to reduce violent crimes committed against women and children by 25 percent by 2012,” said Governor O'Malley. “These are major, life-saving accomplishments, but even one violent crime is too many, no matter the victim’s gender or age. That’s why we’ve set a new goal of further reducing violent crime against women and children by another 25 percent.”

In 2007, the O'Malley-Brown Administration set a goal of driving down violent crimes committed against women and children by 25 percent by the end of 2012. And because of the hard work of law enforcement and all of our partners we have achieved the following milestones:

- In 2012, Maryland drove down female homicides 17.1 percent from 76 victims in 2006 to 63 victims in 2012
- In 2012, juvenile homicides were down 54 percent from 50 victims in 2006 to 23 victims in 2012
- Combined, the state surpassed its goal last year driving down female and juvenile homicides 31.7 percent since 2006.

Building on these successes, the Administration has set a new strategic goal: Reduce violent crimes committed against women and children by an additional 25 percent by the end of 2018.

“While we’ve made tremendous progress in protecting women and children from domestic violence, there is still a lot of work left to be done,” said Lt. Governor Brown. “The men and women we met with today have already helped us take guns

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out of the hands of abusers, expand our hospital-based domestic violence screening programs, implement a life-saving Lethality Assessment Program for law enforcement, and provide unemployment insurance for victims. I remain committed to partnering with them and continuing our work to end domestic violence throughout Maryland.”

Discussion at the Roundtable focused on ways to continue moving forward. Issues discussed included how agencies are working together collaboratively to ensure the success of the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP), the emergency needs of providers and current gaps in service that prevent us from saving lives and how the VINE (Victim Information & Notification Everyday) Protective Order (VPO) program has been effective in safety planning for victims. VPO is an automated notification system that provides protective order case information to petitioners, victim advocates, and law enforcement.

Roundtable Participants

- Tammy Brown, GOCCP, Executive Director
- Lisa Nitsch, House of Ruth, Director of Clinical Services & Education
- Manuel Ruiz, Family Crisis Center of Prince George's County, FAMVIC Program Coordinator
- David R. Shultie, Department of Family Administration, Administrative Office of the Courts, Domestic Violence Manager
- Fatima Burns, LCSW-C, University of Maryland – College Park CARE to Stop Violence
- Jeanne Yeager, Mid Shore Council on Family Violence, Executive Director
- Captain Brian Reider, Maryland State Police, Strategic Planning Command
- Audrey Bergin, Northwest Hospital Center DOVE Program • Rosalyn Branson, Turn Around, Inc., Executive Director
- Major Samuel Cogen, Baltimore City Sheriff's Office • Dave Sargent, Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence
- Judge Karen Friedman, District Court of Maryland, District 1
- Akeda Pearson, victim and spokesperson
- Cheryl Olorogun-Peguese, Family Assault Supervision Team (FAST) Manager, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

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Governor O'Malley Appoints Judges in Harford County

October 17th, 2013

Highly Qualified, Diverse Candidates Selected to Serve

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor O'Malley announced today the appointments of Yolanda Lauranzon Curtin to the Circuit Court for Harford County and David Earl Carey to the District Court for Harford County. These appointees bring a diverse array of legal experiences to their new jobs. They also represent the ethnic and gender diversity of our great state.

The newly appointed judges were recommended to Governor O'Malley by the Harford County judicial nominating commission.

"I am pleased to appoint such an accomplished and diverse group of candidates," said Governor O'Malley. "These appointees will bring to the bench a broad range of legal expertise and a true commitment to public service."

Yolanda Lauranzon Curtin has served as an Administrative Law Judge for Maryland's Office of Administrative Hearings since 2004. Previously she spent 10 years as an Assistant State's Attorney for Harford County, where her duties included supervising cases investigated by the county's Narcotics Task Force. Ms. Curtin is an active member of the Hispanic Bar Association, and has served as an adjunct professor at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law for the past 11 years. Ms. Curtin received a Master in Laws in securities regulation from Georgetown University Law Center, a Juris Doctor from Rutgers University Law School and a Bachelor of Arts from Rutgers University.

David Earl Carey is a partner in the Bel Air-based firm Brown, Brown, and Young, where he concentrates on civil and business litigation, criminal defense, personal injury matters and appeals. Previously he served as a law clerk to the Honorable Robert J. Karwacki on the Court of Special Appeals. Mr. Carey is a member of the Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission and a past president of the Maryland Municipal League. He received a Juris Doctor from the University of Baltimore School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts from The College of Wooster (Ohio).

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Governor O'Malley, Lt. Governor Brown and Washington County Commissioners Announce Expansion Of Volvo Powertrain Facility

October 18th, 2013

HAGERSTOWN, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today joined with Lt. Governor Anthony G. Brown and the Washington County Board of Commissioners to announce that the Volvo Group is investing \$30 million to expand the company's Hagerstown facility. As a result of the expansion, the Volvo Group, one of the world's largest producers of heavy duty diesel engines, plans to add as many as 140 new full-time jobs and retain 1,340 existing full-time jobs.

"Volvo's continued investment in Maryland and in Washington County sends a strong message that we have one of the best workforces in the world," said Governor O'Malley. "State and local officials have worked closely with Volvo over the years to retain these good paying jobs for Western Maryland. We look forward to continuing our excellent relationship with this world-class company."

"We worked to coordinate state support for this expansion because we're committed to creating more good paying, middle-class jobs and bringing new economic opportunities to families in Western Maryland," said Lt. Governor Brown. "I look forward to continuing our work with state and local leaders and our business community to strengthen Maryland's manufacturing industry and ensure that top companies like Volvo stay and grow in Maryland."

To assist with project costs, the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development approved a \$4 million conditional loan, which is based on job retention and creation and capital investment. In addition, Washington County has approved a \$200,000 conditional loan under the same terms. The company is also eligible for a number of State and local tax credits and training programs.

"Here in Washington County we're proud to support the substantial investment and continuing legacy of the Hagerstown facility, which has remained a strong business and community partner for more than 50 years," said Terry Baker, president, Washington County Board of County Commissioners. "Through our strong state and local partnerships, we're able to help secure and support additional high paying jobs for our community and further our focus on future economic development efforts."

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The Volvo Group's Hagerstown facility has been a strong corporate member of the community and a major economic driver in the region for more than 50 years. The site has been home to heavy-duty powertrain development and production since it opened as a Mack Trucks, Inc. facility in 1961. The Volvo Group acquired Mack and the Hagerstown plant in 2001, and since then has invested more than \$350 million to modernize the facility and install new production capability to produce the world's cleanest burning heavy-duty diesel engines and advanced transmissions. In 2012, the plant produced more than 45,000 engines and 21,000 transmissions for Volvo Group brands.

"We not only have a state-of-the-art facility here in Washington County, but more importantly we have a highly-skilled and capable workforce and a world-class product offering," said Wade Watson, the Volvo Group's VP and Plant Manager. "This is one more milestone along a trail of many that demonstrates the Volvo Group's commitment to this market and to our workforce. I am also pleased to see how our partnerships with Maryland's Department of Business and Economic Development and Washington County have contributed to the decisions to invest in this site and provide new opportunities for our community for years to come."

About Volvo Group:

The Volvo Group is one of the world's leading manufacturers of trucks, buses, construction equipment and marine and industrial engines. The Group also provides complete solutions for financing and service. The Volvo Group, which employs about 115,000 people, has production facilities in 19 countries and sells its products in more than 190 markets. In 2012, the Volvo Group's sales amounted to \$45 billion. The Volvo Group is a publicly-held company headquartered in Gothenburg, Sweden. Volvo shares are listed on OMX Nordic Exchange Stockholm and are traded OTC in the U.S. For more information, please visit www.volvogroup.com (<http://www.volvogroup.com/>) or www.volvogroup.mobi

About Washington County:

Washington County, Maryland Government strives to fulfill its duty to the citizens of Washington County with regard to operational efficiency, fiscal responsibility, and responsiveness to the needs of the community. This vision is used to ably assist the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County in achieving goals for moving the County forward as present needs and future plans are addressed. According to the Maryland Department of Legislative Services, the Washington County General Fund has one of the lowest costs per capita for services provided of all 23 counties and Baltimore City. This is attributed to the efficiency, staffing levels, and cost containment exhibited in Washington County Government operations. Visit www.washco-md.net for more information.

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Governor O'Malley Hosts Roundtable on Digital Learning

October 23rd, 2013

ANNAPOLIS, MD– Governor Martin O'Malley today joined educators, state officials and education advocates at a digital learning roundtable to discuss strategies for reaching students in new and innovative ways and preparing them for the 21st century workforce.

“We must ensure that educators and school leadership have the tools they need to make technology an asset in the classroom,” Governor O'Malley said. “We will continue to work to reach kids in new and innovative ways, to make learning more individualized and responsive to the needs of students, and to prepare our children for success in the jobs of tomorrow.”

Last month, Governor O'Malley and Dr. Lillian M. Lowery, State Superintendent of Schools, announced the first recipients of the Digital Learning Innovation Fund grants. The Digital Learning Innovation Fund helps local school systems maximize the potential of new and emerging technologies to improve the teaching and learning environment and to better prepare all students for the workforce of today and the future. Six school systems plus the statewide SEED school will receive a total of \$3.5 million to fund initiatives that help them transition to comprehensive digital learning environments that fundamentally change the interaction between teachers and students.

“With the use of emerging technologies, educators can customize individual student learning in creative and effective ways,” said Dr. Lowery. “It is imperative that our teaching and learning environments progress to meet the unique needs of learners and provide world-class skills that our students will need to be successful in ever-evolving work environments.”

At today's roundtable, participants discussed what is working and what steps need to be taken to incorporate digital learning into Maryland classrooms.

“As Maryland continues raising student learning outcomes, Governor O'Malley clearly understands that effectively combining quality teaching and technology does not mean just slapping a netbook on top of a textbook and calling it digital learning,” said Bob Wise, president of the Alliance of Excellent Education and former governor of West Virginia. “Before massive purchases are made, this meeting shows the state's commitment to having a thorough plan in place about how technology will

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best meet student needs and further strengthen teachers.”

“During our State of the Schools event, I announced Baltimore County Public Schools’ plan to move to an Instructional Digital Conversion. We are inspired that Governor O’Malley is highlighting the significance of digital learning. Our students are digital natives, and the time is right to provide tools and access in the classroom they regularly and comfortably use outside our schools,” said Baltimore County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. S. Dallas Dance.

Panelists included:

- Former West Virginia Governor Bob Wise, current President of the Alliance for Excellent Education
- State Superintendent Dr. Lowery and a State Board of Education member
- Educators from Baltimore, Garrett, and Frederick Counties
- A student from Anne Arundel County
- A representative from the State Department of Information Technology

Integrating technology into classroom instruction is part of a larger effort by the O’Malley-Brown Administration to promote innovation in education. In addition to expanding digital learning, this includes creating seamless transitions between K-12 education and higher education and the workforce, and expanding access to training in STEM and other skills relevant to the growing sectors of Maryland’s economy.

These innovative efforts are among the better choices by the O’Malley-Brown Administration to help build what Education Week magazine says is the best public school system in America for the fifth year in a row. These better choices are leading to better results. Eight out of 10 of our youngest students are entering Kindergarten ready to learn compared to five out of 10 a decade ago. Maryland’s elementary school students have raised their MSA scores nearly 40 percent in both reading and math, and our middle school students have increased their MSA scores in math by more than 80 percent. What’s more, Maryland’s high school students have been ranked number one in the nation in AP success for seven consecutive years and are graduating at the highest rate in our State’s history. In addition, alone among the 50 states, Maryland froze in-state tuition at state colleges and universities four years in a row and has held tuition increases to the **lowest** in the nation for more than five years. We also invested more in public education, more in innovation, and more in infrastructure than ever before in our State’s history.

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Governors Announce Bold Initiative to Put 3.3 M Zero-Emission Vehicles on the Road by 2025

October 24th, 2013

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor O'Malley and governors from seven other states today announced a groundbreaking initiative to put 3.3 million zero-emission vehicles on the roads in their states within a dozen years.

These governors have joined forces to revolutionize the automobile market by promoting zero-emission vehicles. The use of these clean vehicles will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality and public health, enhance energy diversity, save consumers money, and promote economic growth.

"We are excited to be collaborating with other states to ensure the success of our zero-emission vehicle programs. This effort complements work already underway through the Transportation Climate Initiative, in which Maryland and other East Coast states are working to develop a robust charging station network along the I-95 corridor that will permit long-distance travel in electric cars throughout the region. The transition to these advanced technology vehicles will support our efforts to achieve our air quality and climate change goals, and will enhance energy security by reducing our dependence on foreign oil," said **Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley**. "This is a critical part of our efforts to achieve Maryland's long-term 2050 goal to reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions 90 percent from 2006 levels."

Zero-emission vehicles include battery-electric vehicles, plug-in hybrid-electric vehicles, and hydrogen fuel-cell-electric vehicles. These technologies can be used in passenger cars, trucks and transit buses.

Clearing a path

This multi-state effort is intended to expand consumer awareness and demand for zero-emission vehicles. As a first step in this plan, the governors of California, Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island and Vermont signed a cooperative agreement. In this agreement, the governors identify specific actions they will promote within their states and joint cooperative actions these states will undertake to help build a robust national market for electric and hydrogen-powered cars.

For example, the governors agreed to pursue the following efforts:

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- Harmonize building codes to make it easier to construct new electric car charging stations
- Lead by example by including zero emission vehicles in their public fleets
- Evaluate and establish, where appropriate, financial and other incentives to promote zero emission vehicles
- Consider establishing favorable electricity rates for home charging systems; and
- Develop common standards for roadway signs and charging networks.

The eight states will develop an action plan over the next six months that will include many of these strategies and others.

Creating a market

These states are among a group of states which have adopted rules requiring about 15 percent of new vehicles sold to be zero-emission vehicles by 2025. Collectively, the eight signatory states represent more than 23 percent of the U.S. car market, and expect to have at least 3.3 million of these vehicles operating on their roadways by that time.

The market demand created by these state programs can help lower zero-emission vehicle costs through economies of scale and expand the range of product lines available to consumers.

The cars are here now

U.S. electric car sales in 2012 more than tripled to about 52,000 from 17,000 in 2011. Motorists bought more than 40,000 plug-in cars in the first and second quarters of 2013.

There are currently 16 zero-emission vehicle models available from eight automotive manufacturers; nine run completely on batteries, two on hydrogen fuel cells and five are plug-in hybrid electric vehicles that can run on gasoline as well as battery power. The number of models is expected to increase for model year 2014 and beyond. Several electric vehicle models have won awards for safety, performance and customer satisfaction over the past couple of years.

There are already more than 6,700 charging stations open to the public in the signatory states. By 2015 nearly every major automaker will have zero emission vehicles available for sale or lease, and more than 200,000 zero-emission vehicles are expected to be on the road across the U.S.

A healthier environment and economy

These clean vehicles will provide a major foothold in the battle [to reduce greenhouse gas emissions](#) and their consequences, which include sea level rise, increases in extreme weather, and wildfire intensity.

There are economic advantages as well. Electricity is the most widely available source of power and typically costs about two-thirds less than gasoline on a per-mile basis. By 2025, the average zero-emission vehicle driver will save nearly \$6,000 in fueling costs over the life of the car.

Just in California, data provided by the state Community Colleges shows 46,000

businesses now related to advanced transportation, and nearly 600,000 jobs in that field. These include jobs building and servicing vehicles and infrastructure.

The cooperative agreement, or “Memorandum of Understanding,” is available at <http://www.governor.maryland.gov/documents/zevprogrammou.pdf>

Seven governors on the importance of the Zero Emission Vehicle MOU:

California: “This is not just an agreement, but a serious and profoundly important commitment,” said California Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. “From coast to coast, we’re charging ahead to get millions of the world’s cleanest vehicles on our roads.”

Connecticut: Governor Dannel P. Malloy said, “This initiative is consistent with Connecticut’s Comprehensive Energy Strategy and our focus on providing cheaper, cleaner, and more reliable power for our residents and businesses. As part of that strategy we are working in the transportation sector to encourage the use of alternative fuels and alternative vehicles. In keeping with that approach, we launched a grant program to speed construction of 200 publically available electric vehicle charging stations by early 2014 – which will end ‘range anxiety’ in our state and increase public interest in owning zero-emission vehicles.”

Massachusetts: “Increasing electric vehicles in our fleet is a critical component of our efforts in Massachusetts to address air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector and grow the clean energy economy,” said Governor Deval Patrick. “Diversifying transportation fuels and providing drivers with options will help reduce vulnerability to price swings in imported oil that hurt consumers and our economy.”

New York: “This agreement is a major step forward to reducing the emissions that are causing our climate to change and unleashing the extreme weather that we are experiencing with increased frequency,” said Governor Andrew M. Cuomo. “This collaboration builds on New York’s Charge NY initiative, which is creating a statewide network of 3,000 charging stations by 2018 and will provide New Yorkers with a convenient and affordable alternative to increasingly expensive gasoline and diesel.”

Oregon: “This initiative will help states reduce transportation-related air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, enhance energy diversity, save consumers money, and promote economic growth,” said Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber. “It also directly supports Oregon’s 10-Year Energy Action Plan and will spur innovation that helps us to meet our goals.”

Rhode Island: “Rhode Island has already started taking steps and one includes the installation of charging stations throughout the state. We are determined to develop a clean and efficient transportation infrastructure for the future,” Governor Lincoln D. Chafee said. “Through the Zero Emission Vehicle MOU, we have created a vital partnership that will reduce our reliance on imported oil, boost our economy, and save money at the pump. This is an important collaboration that works toward our common goal of protecting our environment.”

Vermont: “This collaboration is about partnerships. The signatory states and our neighbors are already coordinating to ensure a viable regional infrastructure for electric cars through programs such as the Transportation Climate Initiative in the

Northeast and Mid-Atlantic region and the West Coast Electric Highway. The states are committed to working with the automakers, refueling infrastructure suppliers, the electric utilities and other partners to ensure the success of zero-emission vehicle programs from all of our perspectives," said Vermont Governor Peter Shumlin.

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Prince George's County Warrant Initiative Yields 596 Arrests

October 30th, 2013



ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today joined local law enforcement officials to announce that a highly successful three-month warrant sweep in Prince George's County resulted in 596 arrests, 160 detainers placed against offenders already behind bars and 270 warrants administratively cleared. The initiative was part of the Governor's core crime control strategy to enhance warrant service statewide. It allows law enforcement to move swiftly against potentially violent criminals before they offend again.

"Protecting public safety is our most solemn obligation – one we can only fulfill with strong partnerships at the local level," **Governor O'Malley** said. "Working together with the Prince George's County Sheriff's Office and law enforcement officials throughout the county, we have removed some of the most dangerous offenders from county streets. We applaud the hard work of the men and women who helped ensure the success of this initiative, and we will continue our efforts here and statewide to drive down crime rates and keep Marylanders safe in their communities."

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“Keeping our streets safe in Prince George’s County is one of our top priorities, that’s why we are aggressively going after violent criminals,” said **Lt. Governor Anthony Brown**. “All Marylanders should have a right to know that when they go to the park, send their children to school or simply walk down the street, that they will be safe. I want to thank the brave men and women of law enforcement for all of their hard work in apprehending these dangerous offenders. Together, we are taking meaningful action to build a brighter future for all of our families here in Prince George’s County.”

Consistent with the Administration’s core strategy, the Governor’s Office of Crime Control & Prevention (GOCCP) awarded \$125,660 to the Prince George’s County Sheriff’s Office to target some of the county’s most dangerous offenders wanted on open warrants. The initiative ran from July 14 to October 15 and resulted in a total of 1,128 total warrants disposed.

“Collaboration and partnership have been key elements of our strategy to improve public safety in Prince George’s County. We have enjoyed a great partnership with the State, which has enabled us to significantly reduce crime in the County,” said **Prince George’s County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III**. “Sheriff High and his team have done a great job and these funds will better equip the Sheriff’s Department to issue more warrants. I want to thank Governor O’Malley for his support as we work to reduce violent crime in our County and across the State.

These funds will help continue our efforts to keep crime in Prince George’s County at its lowest levels in over 30 years.”

“Thanks to assistance from the Governor and allied law enforcement partners, we were able to increase our daily activity sufficiently to achieve these significant results and during a period of the year when the crime cycle is generally highest,” said **Prince George’s County Sheriff Melvin High**, whose Warrant Division spearheaded the operation and partnered with local and State law enforcement leaders in multi-team overnight operations. “There is no substitute for partnerships that work to the benefit of citizen safety and this effort has proven that fact once again.”

Included in the total number of arrests were offenders wanted for serious crimes such as murder, rape, child abuse, robbery, burglary, and drug offenses. During the course of this operation, specific emphasis was placed on warrants arising from incidents of domestic violence. As a result, 26 domestic violence offenders were apprehended for violation of ex-parte and peace orders.

This was a multi-agency initiative coordinated by the Prince George’s County Sheriff’s Office and involving law enforcement officers from across the County. The agencies involved were the Prince George’s County Police Department, the Prince George’s County Department of Corrections, Maryland State Police (Forestville and College Park Barracks), the United States Marshals Service, the New Carrollton Police Department, the Greenbelt Police Department, the Glenarden Police Department, the Colmar Manor Police Department, the Capitol Heights Police Department, the Cheverly Police Department, the Prince George’s County Office of Homeland Security, and the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Police.

The O’Malley-Brown Administration has set a strategic goal to reduce violent crime in Maryland. Last year, working together with the hardworking men and women of

Maryland law enforcement, we drove down homicides, violent crime and property crime to 30-year lows. Today, we've driven down violent crime more than 26 percent compared to 2006, and set a new goal to drive down violent crime an additional 20 percent by 2018.

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Governor O'Malley Highlights Efforts to Strengthen the Middle Class, Protect Public Health and the Environment

October 31st, 2013

Sustainability Forum third in a series focusing on the Administration's strategic goals

LAUREL, MD — Governor Martin O'Malley today hosted Maryland's *Better Choices, Better Results Forum on Sustainability*, the third in a series of statewide sessions designed to foster an ongoing, collaborative dialogue on strengthening the middle class. More than 300 stakeholders joined the Governor, cabinet officials and other policy experts to discuss the significant progress made under the O'Malley-Brown Administration strategic goals and to lay a foundation for continuing the work that is creating a stronger, healthier Maryland.

"We have made a choice to create a better, more sustainable future for our children," said **Governor O'Malley**. "And we have made progress, not by chance, but by choice. We chose to foster innovation and invest in a greener, cleaner, more sustainable economy, and Maryland's workforce now has more green jobs per capita than any state in the Mid-Atlantic region. We chose to set some of the most ambitious goals in the nation — to reduce greenhouse emissions, advance renewable energy, protect the health of our children and elderly, restore our living resources, and making our communities more sustainable — and we chose to hold ourselves accountable for reaching them."

The forum highlighted key sustainability initiatives, including Maryland's progress on Chesapeake Bay Restoration Efforts as tracked by [Baystat](#). Other initiatives covered included creating and expanding sustainable communities and sustaining our resource-based industries. In addition, the event fostered an ongoing dialogue to lay out a vision for continuing to restore the Chesapeake Bay, protect public health and the environment and generate investments in green jobs.

"Under the O'Malley-Brown Administration, Marylanders have benefitted from strong leadership on sustainability issues, including coordinated efforts to clean up the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries," stated Congressman Steny Hoyer. "I'm proud that, over the past two years, we have achieved 100% of our State's benchmarks toward Bay restoration, which helps ensure that our tourism, seafood, and shipping industries continue to thrive. At the same time, the Administration is helping to build

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more sustainable communities by working with local governments to accommodate projected growth while focusing on renewable sources of energy and sustainable agriculture. We are fortunate to have a Governor who recognizes our sustainability challenges and who is leading the way forward in meeting them head on. I will continue to work with him and Lt. Governor Brown and ensure the federal government is a strong partner in helping Maryland achieve its sustainability goals in the years to come.”

The O'Malley-Brown Administration is making better choices that are leading to better results. Since 2007, we've preserved more than 47,000 acres of prime agricultural land on 372 Maryland farms. Maryland has planted 108,664 trees through the Marylanders Plant Trees program. Together with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the other Bay watershed states, we developed the nation's first major watershed pollution control plan under the authority of the Clean Water Act to achieve water quality standards for the Chesapeake Bay and meet our 2025 water quality goals for Chesapeake Bay restoration. In fact, Maryland has met or exceeded both the 2010-2011 and 2012-2013 milestone goals for Bay restoration. And Governor O'Malley recently announced that the State and its partners produced and planted a record 1.25 billion native baby oysters (spat) in Maryland this year – the first time any hatchery in the nation has produced more than one billion Eastern oyster spat in a single season.

“Marylanders take pride in preserving and protecting our environment and with the O'Malley-Brown administration's incredible efforts to put us on a sustainable path, we are leading the way toward a greener future,” said Congressman John Sarbanes. “From getting students outdoors to giving families ways to make their homes more efficient, I am working to create opportunities for every-day individuals to become engaged in preserving our environment for the next generation.”

In addition, Maryland is a Top Ten state for Energy Efficiency for the second year in a row according to the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy. Governor O'Malley recently released the State's final Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan – one of the most stringent legislative climate change rules in the nation.

Maryland recently revamped the Smart, Green & Growing [website](#), where you can learn more about the State's sustainable initiatives. It features all of the State's “green” maps in one atlas, is accessible from mobile devices, and includes ways to share information via social media.

Learn more about the O'Malley-Brown Administration's Better Choices Better Results Forums and watch the recording of the Sustainability's live stream at: <http://www.governor.maryland.gov/forums.html>

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